



PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Shigenori Aoki, *et al.*

Serial No.: 10/761,619

Filed: January 21, 2004

For: VARIABLE OPTICAL ATTENUATOR
HAVING A WAVEGUIDE AND AN OPTICALLY
COUPLED LAYER WITH A POWER MONITOR

Art Group Unit: Unknown

Examiner: Unknown

Attorney Docket: 02EK-106093

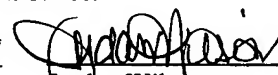
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**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT
PURSUANT TO 37 C.F.R. §1.56 AND §§1.97-1.98**

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Sir:

The citations listed on the enclosed PTO-1449 Form are submitted under 37 C.F.R.
§§1.97 and 1.98, and in compliance with the duty of disclosure as defined in 37 C.F.R. §1.56.

The Examiner is requested to make these citations officially of record in the application.
This Information Disclosure Statement is being submitted before receipt of the first Office
Action for the above-identified application, therefore, pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §1.97, no fee or
certification is required.

This Information Disclosure Statement is not to be construed as a representation or
admission that any of the listed citations, by itself or in combination with other information, is
material to patentability, is, in fact, prior art, or establishes or a *prima facie* case of
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Disclosure Statement is not to be construed as a representation that a further search of the art has been made by Applicants, or that additional information relevant to the examination of this application does not exist unbeknownst to Applicants.

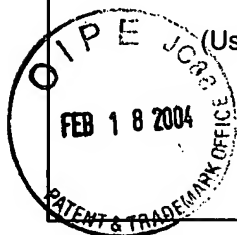
February 13, 2004

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Respectfully submitted,


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Registration No. 31,566

FORM PTO-1449 (Modified) LIST OF PATENTS AND PUBLICATIONS FOR APPLICANT(S) INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT (Use several sheets if necessary)	ATTY. DOCKET NO.	SERIAL NO.
	02EK-106093	10/761,619
	APPLICANT: Shigenori Aoki, <i>et al.</i>	
	FILING DATE:	GROUP ART UNIT:
	January 21, 2004	Unknown



REFERENCE DESIGNATION		U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS					
EXAM'R INITIAL		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	Class	Subclass	Filing Date If Appropriate
	A1	6,441,955 B1	08/27/2002	Takatsu, et al.			
	A2	6,546,163 B2	04/08/2003	Thackara			
	A3	6,553,175 B2	02/22/2003	Jaspan			
	A4						
	A5						
	A6						
	A7						
	A8						

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS								
EXAM'R INITIAL		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	Subclass	TRANSLAT'N	
							yes	no
	B1							
	B2							

OTHER ART (Include Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)		
	C1	
	C2	

EXAMINER	DATE CONSIDERED
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EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance *and* not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to Applicant(s).